



# Legislative Committee on Economic Development & International Relations

## *2008 Review*

Lt. Governor Brad Owen  
Committee Chair



# Office of Lieutenant Governor Brad Owen

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## Creating Green Jobs in Washington State *July 9-10 Vancouver*

### *Summary Recommendations*

- The state should conduct a formal comprehensive survey to identify:
  - High-demand green industries statewide.
  - Emerging technologies and innovations.
  - Our state's workforce, education, and training, capacity in this sector
- The state should develop criteria for targeted investments and Incentives and strategies to grow green our green economy.



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## *Creating Green Jobs*

- The state should recommend financial incentives and strategies that stimulate research and development of green technology and promote innovation
- Government and private business should develop strong relationships with academia.
- Provide sufficient and stable state funding for training programs that produce high skills high wage green jobs.
- Private business producing green products have benefited from tax incentives but need continued low utility rates, and an expedited permitting process, especially for water rights and sewer use.



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## *Creating Green Jobs*

### SOLAR ENERGY

- The state should provide incentives for long-term, large-scale clean energy product manufacturing industries:
  - increase net – metering from 100 KW to 2 MW,
  - limit fees and standardize the process for interconnection, and
  - provide solar friendly utility rates.
- The state should actively encourage local green businesses and projects in rural and urban communities that promote sustainable energy efficiency, septic tank programs, and use local green building materials.



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## *Economic Impact of the Health Care Industry*

September 24-25, Spokane

### **Summary Recommendations**

- Ensure that the state provides hospitals with adequate reimbursement for services.
- The state should actively reduce administrative and regulatory barriers.
- The biomedical device industry needs seed and early stage funding from the state to maintain continual technical advancement in this sector.
- The state should survey what types of incentives other states are providing to enhance this industry.



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## *Health Care Industry*

- The state should expand its development and funding of regional and existing cluster programs such as the successful Innovation Partnership Zone (IPZ) program.
- The state should continue to support higher education in health care-related fields, particularly nursing, specialty therapies, health care IT, and primary care.
- The state should broaden and develop programs to drive commercialization of new biomedical technologies and products. Proposals included expansion of the Life Science Discovery Fund and creation of other types of pension funds to allow for direct investment. (An approach other states have taken).





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## *Economic Impact of the Cyber and Video Game Industry* November 18-19, Bellevue

### Summary Recommendations

- Political support is needed to expand internet availability through the development of our state's broadband map.
- The state should implement a video game tax incentive program to encourage computer and video game production.



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## *Cyber and Video Game Industry*

- The state should develop and support a uniform and comprehensive array of educational programs, K through higher education, that will produce highly-skilled technical specialists for the game and animations industry and provide funding for career and technical educational (CTE) starting in middle schools and skills centers.
- The state should create a knowledge center of best practices and products for use in training and education.



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## *Cyber and Video Game Industry*

- The state tax code should be changed to reflect software development as manufacturing rather than as a service.
- The state should enhance funding and provide seed funding for the UW Institute for Learning Through Games.



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